

KOLLENYI,

7143

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

11 December 1950

Chief, Foreign Division

Attn: Pullach

Operational

Hungarian Refugee Exploitation, Austria

RE: REFUGEE-- MASA-024 (not sent to Pullach)

1. The following information has been extracted from a lengthy analysis (MASA-024) of the refugee situation in Austria and of the operational screening, interrogation, or other exploitation of the Hungarian and Czech refugees which is conducted by various interested groups:

a. "The principal Hungarian recruiting team of KIPPEN is composed of Gyorgy KOLLENYI and Sander VISITAY, who work for the Herbert BOHNAL (WALLNER) - Secret Room Branch. This recruiting unit operates in Salzburg and has placed Istvan KAGANIS and Ferenc FARKAS in the MIS Screening Center at the Hotel Europa. The two men live in the building and function unofficially as janitors or building superintendents. They are there by virtue of an old working agreement with the Public Safety Office in Salzburg and are tolerated by CIC and CIB. These men point out refugees with information or operational potential to VISITAY, who debriefs them and in some cases makes recruitments. Examples of recruitment are Josef KORNIT, involved in the evacuation of the [ ] family (for MOS), Vince TOLAS, Josef KONTAK and Josef VESZELIOS. The main feature of these recruitments is that the individuals are black market and professional smuggler types. They are recruited as couriers rather than agents and when sent into Hungary, do not contact intelligence sources. They merely provide operational information on travel, documentation and local conditions, which is used by KOLLENYI and VISITAY to give color and authenticity to reports resulting from the debriefing of refugees. The persons debriefed are put up temporarily in hotels for a short time and given a bonus in money. Although very few of the refugees approached by the KIPPEN team (or by other groups) are used operationally, the initial support given by the KOLLENYI (or other) group tends to create a loyalty situation which makes these refugees ineligible for recruitment by our organization. The debriefing and recruitment done by KOLLENYI is of direct benefit to the Andreas BAKO operation, since BAKO gets the 'take' via Colonel Gyorgy KOLLENYI, Miklos KORPORAY and Lajos KAPAS."

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b. "Caritas, Welfare Organization of the Catholic Church operates a debriefing center for Hungarian refugees under the immediate sponsorship of the Hungarian Catholic Action. The debriefing is done by Dr. Elek NONVATI, employee of Caritas in Salzburg. NONVATI definitely has "GISE" connections and is probably tied in with the ZAKO group."

c. "The various approaches to refugees (by IPPER, by French Guard companies and the French Foreign Legion, by Caritas, and by the ZAKO group) result primarily in a duplication of interrogation information. Information from one refugee is likely to show up in the following places: MIS basic interrogation sheets; CIC reports (frequently both in Vienna and in Salzburg); DIPLO reports (through Heinrich HAYEK in Graz some reports from KOLLENYI reach the Italian IS and CI); USACE (some DIPLO reports also reach HAYEK via DOMOGI and Catholic Church information circles via Thomas KUKULLA); ZAKO (his reports not only are peddled to many independent customers, but find their way back into CIC channels). The result is multiple false confirmation and the totally unnecessary expenditure of government money. The information has reflected chiefly the Hungarian picture. However, the situation with Czech, Slovak, Russian and Yugoslav refugees is almost identical."

2. RASA-024 contains no indication of how the information on the operational procedures, report padding and other activity of VISNYI and KOLLENYI was obtained or any further information on the manner in which agent couriers are dispatched by them into Hungary.